

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented): A method of surveillance using a plurality of cameras comprising:
 - at said cameras, capturing a plurality of still frames;
 - generating, from said plurality of still frames, a sequence of digital image data sets representing perceptible images;
 - at said cameras, transmitting said sequence to a camera coordinator, said camera coordinator receiving digital image data set sequences from multiple cameras;
 - at said camera coordinator, determining, using said digital image data set sequences, whether an incident is associated with one or more frames in said sequence and/or one or more cameras ;
 - from said camera coordinator, transmitting digital image data set sequences for which an incident is associated over a network to an image server;
 - storing said sequence at said image server; and
 - providing said sequence from said image server to one or more clients for viewing by a user.
2. (original): The method according to claim 1 wherein said sequence stored at said image server is stored in a format designed for still image display on a client browser.
3. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1 wherein said determining comprises resolving incidents from multiple cameras into an incident sequence.
4. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1 wherein said sequence stored at said image server comprises a full frame and one or more subsequent differential frames indicating still frames captured at different times wherein pixels in a differential

frame with values within a threshold of corresponding pixels in a preceding frame are set to transparent.

Claims 5 - 8. (cancelled)

9. (original): The method according to claim 1 wherein said determining comprises computing a percentage value for a differential frame indicating a calculated percentage change between said differential frame and a preceding frame.

10. (original): The method according to claim 1 wherein said determining comprises comparing a single still frame to a preceding frame.

11. (cancelled)

12. (original): The method according to claim 1 wherein said clients comprise off-the-shelf internet browser software.

13. (original): The method according to claim 1 further comprising:
storing said sequence at said camera coordinator.

14. (original): The method according to claim 1 wherein said storing comprises storage of data sets for which incidents were detected for later transmission as requested by an image server.

15. (original): The method according to claim 1 wherein said image server includes a network interface with a high bandwidth capacity allowing for multiple simultaneous client connections.

Claims 16 – 32 (Cancelled)

33. (new) A method of viewing image data from a plurality of cameras comprising:
at said cameras, capturing data sets representing images;

at said cameras, periodically transmitting said data sets to a plurality of camera coordinators, a plurality of said camera coordinators each receiving data sets from multiple cameras;

at said camera coordinators, determining whether one or more of said data sets is of interest;

transmitting data sets of interest from said camera coordinators over a network to an image server, said image server not local to one or more of said cameras; and
providing said data sets from said image server for viewing by a user.

34. (new)The method according to claim 33 further comprising:

storing one or more sequences at said image server.

35. (new)The method according to claim 33 further wherein:

said camera coordinators include logic for performing two or more of the following on data sets from multiple of said cameras:

detecting an incident comprising one or more data sets from a camera;

resolving incidents from multiple cameras into an incident sequence;

image recognition;

logging and/or cataloging incidents according to a rules-based engine; or

generating security alarms.

36. (new)The method according to claim 33 further wherein:

said camera coordinators include an interface for sending control signals to one or more cameras to affect one or more camera functions.

37. (new)The method according to claim 33 further wherein said camera functions comprise one or more selected from the group:

frequency of image capture, focus, contrast, or positioning for moveable cameras.

38. (new)The method according to claim 33 further wherein said control signals comprise one or more selected from the group:

resend, change camera characteristics such as brightness or contrast, set the frequency for frame transmission, establish rules regarding when frames should be transmitted, or adjusting tolerance levels for determining if an alarm should be transmitted.

39. (new)The method according to claim 33 further wherein:

said camera coordinators receive and process control data from one or more cameras.

40. (new)The method according to claim 39 further wherein:

said control data includes one or more items selected from the group consisting of:
an indication that a camera detected a differential;
data indicating current position or focus depth of a moveable camera;
a camera identifier; or
a time signal of a camera at a given frame capture.

41. (new)The method according to claim 33 further wherein:

transmission of data sets from a camera to a coordinator can be occasioned by one or more of the following:
expiration of a time interval since the last transmission;
detection of a difference at a controller; or
at the request of the coordinator.

42. (new)The method according to claim 33 further wherein:

said coordinators determine if an incident occurred by using a logical process accounting for time of day, day of the week, nature of the pixel change detected, and data sets received from said cameras.

43. (new)The method according to claim 33 further wherein:

said camera coordinators indicate to said server detected incidents or changes of an image that allow said server to intelligently control a view of one or more connected clients by changing the view of images displayed at the clients or by creating new windows and directing images to those new windows.

44. (new)The method according to claim 33 further wherein:

said coordinators include an incident and history database their connected cameras and can playback stored incidents;

said coordinators can connect multiple incidents, triggered at multiple cameras, into an incident sequence;

said coordinators have positional and view information about each camera and information about overlapping regions of cameras;

said coordinators perform time-stamping for data sets and/or incidents;

said coordinator provide a management interface allowing a user to perform various management functions, such as setting time parameters for whether incidents from particular cameras will be of interest, establishing other rules definitions; specifying alerts regarding cameras that have not reported; installing new software and other maintenance functions.

said coordinators perform advanced image processing tasks such as image recognition or tracking a person or object identified in an image or determining that an object is coming toward or moving away from one or more of its connected cameras.